

REMARKS/ELECTION

By way of an election restriction requirement mailed November 19, 2004, the Examiner is requiring an election between 11 patentability distinct species of the claimed invention. For purposes of responding to this requirement, applicants elect the species of invention shown in Fig. 3a, Group III, as defined in claims 1-11 for purposes of continued prosecution.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 2 are generic to all species identified in the election/restriction requirement. Therefore, if claims 1 or 2 are deemed to be allowable, consideration of the remaining non-elected species is respectfully requested.

In addition to the foregoing, it is submitted that the species of invention shown in Fig. 3a is close to the embodiment shown in Figs. 2 and 3 and, in fact, the design of Fig. 3a is combination of the species shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this election, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would contact the undersigned attorney-of-record at the telephone number shown below for further expediting the prosecution of the application.

Again, should any allowable claim be generic to any of the non-elected species, consideration of the claims depending therefrom is requested.

As this response is filed after the shortened statutory period a request for a one month extension of time is submitted herewith. Any deficiencies may be charged to Deposit Account 04-1577.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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